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HOUSE RESOLUTION 209
By Cooper B

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Dr. Lirah Sabir upon
being named Educator of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their professional efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Dr. Lirah Sabir, who, in her sixth year as principal of Caldwell Elementary School in Memphis, has been named Educator of the Year by the Memphis Alliance of Black School Educators; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Sabir has displayed visionary leadership and has established many innovative programs during her illustrious tenure as principal of Caldwell Elementary School, yet her precepts and theories are well founded in practical experience: she was a classroom teacher for 12 years and has been an administrator in the Memphis City School System since 1984; and

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WHEREAS, she served for six years as assistant principal at Caldwell prior to assuming the mantle of leadership as principal; she also serves with distinction as an adjunct professor at the University of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, under Dr. Sabir's meticulous direction, Caldwell became the first year-round school in Memphis and Shelby County, Tennessee in 1995; today, Caldwell continues to grow with the addition of a day care program for infants and the Perea School, which gives three-year-old children an upper-hand by providing them with essentials needed for success in their academic careers; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Sabir has worked assiduously to ensure Caldwell's commitment to the total development of all students, accepting each student as a unique person; and

WHEREAS, under her able guidance, the school provides a safe and secure environment that encourages the free flow of ideas and dreams, allowing students to experience success in all their endeavors and providing the continuous academic, emotional, and social support necessary to prepare students to function in a highly technical and diverse society; and

WHEREAS, working closely with administrators, parents, guardians, and community leaders, Dr. Sabir and her faculty and staff are dedicated to nurturing the whole child so that he or she may become a well-educated and productive citizen; and

WHEREAS, through her professionalism and enthusiasm, she encourages her students to develop a love for learning that will continue to be a lifelong adventure not only for themselves, but for generations to follow; and

WHEREAS, under Dr. Sabir's sagacious leadership, Caldwell Elementary School's outstanding parent involvement program has been honored as the most exemplary such program in Tennessee's Eighth Congressional District, eclipsing all other entries in Parent Involvement: The Vital Link program; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Memphis' Hamilton High School, Dr. Sabir earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from LeMoyne-Owen College and

received her Master of Education degree from the University of Memphis; she holds a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, her singular excellence as an educator has been previously recognized by her selection as National Educator of the Year for 1991-1992 by the National Alliance of Black School Educators and Outstanding Administrator in the State of Tennessee for 1989-1990 by TEA/MEA; and

WHEREAS, the prosperity of the state of Tennessee, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depends, in great measure, on the dedication of consummate professionals such as Dr. Sabir, who generously devote their time and energies to educating the leaders of tomorrow; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby honor and commend Dr. Lirah Sabir, principal of Caldwell Elementary School in Memphis, upon being selected as Educator of the Year by the Memphis Alliance of Black School Educators; salute her ongoing commitment to providing the opportunity for a quality education to her students and ensuring parental and community involvement at all stages of the learning process; and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.